Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether there are depots in every taluk?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: Yes.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether the member is aware that the supply of manure in some of the depots falls short of the requirements?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: Yes, Sir.

Manure for farmers.

85. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the arrangements that have been made to distribute manure to cultivators at cheap rates; and

(*b*) how far the people are taking advantage of the concession offered?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: (*a*) The member is referred to the answer to part (a) of question No. 84 above.

(*b*) People are taking full advantage of the concessions offered.

Cultivation of Plantain.

86. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Agricultural Department has estimated the total acreage now under plantain cultivation in the State; and

(*b*) whether in view of the shortage of foodstuffs, the Department has adopted any measures for the development of plantain cultivation?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

Fruit tree cultivation.

87. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan:** Will the Government be pleased to state the area at present under fruit tree cultivation by the Agricultural Department?

Mr. T. C. Kochunni Pillai: 17 acres.

Non-pensionable Employees.

88. * **Mr. N. Narayana Kurup:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the pay and scales of pay of contingency (non-pensionable) employees in the various departments have been generally increased or revised during the last three years;

(*b*) whether the recent revision of scales of pay has in any instance been extended to such contingency employees of Government;

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(*c*) whether they have any proposal for the revision of the scales of pay of the contingency staff in any department ; and

(*d*) if so, what they are ?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) In view of the answer to part (*c*), the question does not arise.

Age of Superannuation.

89. * **Mr. A. N. Satyanesan** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any scheme is in contemplation to revise the recent orders raising the age of superannuation of Government officers to 58 ?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar : No.

Pension.

90. * **Mr. K. S. Joseph** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of officers drawing a pay of over Rs. 50 that retired from service on or before 1-1-1121 in the Education, Medical and Public Health Departments and after 1-7-1120 ;

(*b*) the names and number of those whose pensions have not been sanctioned ;

(*c*) why so much delay has been made in each case ;

(*d*) whether there is a circular that retiring officers should be enabled to draw their pensions within three months of their retirement ?

Mr. S. Narayana Aiyar :

(*a*) Education Department 3
Medical Deparment 5
Public Health Department 1

(*b*) One, *viz.*, Mr. C. V. Varghese, retired Assistant Inspector of Schools.

(*c*) Time taken for settlement of liabilities and rectifying defects in the pension papers.

(*d*) The answer is in the negative. But Government have issued instructions to all Heads of Departments that pension cases should be disposed of with the least possible delay.

Revision of salaries of Government servants.

91. * **Mr. K. Shahul Hameed** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the names of the departments in which grade system of pay has been substituted by the scale system of pay in the revision of salaries of Government servants brought into effect from 1-6-1119 ; and

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